## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF MASSACHUSETTS

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EDWARD B. ELLIS a/k/a ROCCO ELLIS

CIVIL ACTION NO. 97-30085-REK

Movant

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### **EMERGENCY**

MOTION TO RELEASE MOVANT FOR TIME SERVED WITH NO FURTHER FEDERAL COMMITMENTS AND TO VACATE MOVANT'S CONVICTION FORTHWITH DUE TO TRIAL ATTORNEY'S PUBLIC PRONOUNCEMENT IN FEDERAL COURT OF HIS SEVERE MENTAL IMPAIRMENT AT TIME OF MOVANT'S TRIAL

### **FACTS**

- 1. Now comes the Movant, Rocco Edward Ellis (Ellis), who has been unjustly incarcerated for the past sixteen (16) YEARS for a "crime" he not only did not commit but for a crime that never took place.
- 2. In what follows this Honorable Court will clearly see a pattern of not only callous indifference by Ellis's trial attorney, Morris M. Goldings, that borders on the criminal but that he, Goldings, actually crossed that border.

### **OPINIONS & ORDERS**

			Page(s)
1.	Ellis v US, 313 F.3rd 636 (1st Cir. 2002)	Appendix A	A1-A21
2.	US v. Ellis, 935 F.2d 385 (1st Cir. 1991)	Appendix B	B1-B21
3.	Freedman J.'s Order dated 4/23/97	Appendix C	C1
4.	Freedman J's Order dated 5/27/97	Appendix D	D1-D2
5.	Freedman J.'s Order dated 6/11/97	Appendix E	E1
6.	Freedman J.'s Order dated 12/10/97	Appendix F	F1
7.	Freedman J.'s Memo & Order dated 03/02/98	Appendix G	G1-G48
8.	Freedman J.'s Transfer Order dated 03/09/98	Appendix H	Н1
9.	Keeton J.'s Order dated 04/09/99	Appendix I	Ī1
10.	Keeton J.'s Order Appointing Counsel 06/24/99	Appendix J	J1 <b>-</b> J3
11.	Keeton J.'s Memo & Order dated 06/08/01	Appendix K	K1-K23
	granting Ellis' Motion for 2255 relief		
12.	Government's Notice of Appeal 07/06/01	Appendix L	L1

## FILING TO THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT

1. Writ of Certiorari dated May 19, 2003 Appendix M M1-M45

Review Denied

#### **HISTORY**

- In a travel of Ellis's case one will note that everyone has commented that Ellis had an outstanding lawyer at the time of his trial and appeal. That lawyer is now revealed as a felon and a man who has long suffered from a severe and debilitating mental illness. A rereading of the case will reveal a long, arduous journey by Ellis to this point in time. Ellis was convicted in 1989 for a crime which never happened.
- 2. Morris Goldings, Ellis's counsel for the trial, the lost appeal and the first approach to the United States Supreme Court was mentally diminished and unable to properly represent his client before, during and after his legal representation of Ellis.
- 3. Ellis asserted this fact in his 2255 in 1997. Ellis was not seen as credible then due to Goldings being held in high esteem by his peers and the judiciary. When reviewed de novo, Ellis's assertions are now seen in a new light.
- 4. Attorney Steven J. Brooks represented Goldings at Goldings' sentencing hearing on July 17, 2002. Goldings had been charged with stealing \$17 million from his clients between 1993 and 2000. "Goldings suffered from a personality disorder and clinical depression that for more than a decade clouded his judgment, Brooks said. 'Morris Goldings couldn't help himself." (From the Boston Globe article "Goldings Sentenced To 3 Years In Prison"; Thanassis Cambanis, Globe Staff; July 18, 2002.)
- 5. Ellis's trial was on May 9, 1990; Goldings clearly showed his mental health issues in his representation of Ellis on that date as well as before and after. The original date of trial was March 19, 1990; trial was postponed on the same day due to Goldings not being able to appear at trial. When the trial finally took place in May, Judge Freedman asked

- Goldings how he was feeling. Goldings replied, "It was quite an episode." (Trial I; p24; 5/9/90) What was the true reason for the postponement? Drugs, aberrant liaisons?
- 6. Goldings, in the years before Ellis's arrest and trial, had a special relationship with Ellis a relationship that crossed that of attorney/client and into that of "partners in crime" regarding Goldings' unorthodox handling of enormous amounts of cash and with Ellis as an assistant in Goldings' procuring and handling of pre-op male transsexual prostitutes. The relationship of Goldings and Ellis tainted any semblance of effective assistance of counsel. Goldings never should have represented Ellis. Ellis, however, thought they had a "friendship"and he (Ellis) would be professionally protected by Goldings this highly reputed attorney. Goldings, with his hidden pathological behaviors, now had a most convenient vehicle to get "rid" of Rocco. Goldings performed ineffectively from start to finish on purpose.
- 7. A review of Ellis's 2255 will show that Ellis asserted that Goldings was impaired in several areas. The entire 2255 is filled with countless examples of Goldings' failure to perform in all areas of representation, including, but not limited to, researching the facts of the case or interviewing or calling defense witnesses.

NOTE: Ellis's 2255 is replete with myriad examples of Goldings failing him. The 2255 filing, including its exhibits, is missing from federal archival records. Why? AUSA Christopher Alberto informed Diana Sandgren in late 2004 or early 2005 that most of the 2255 filing was missing with only a few pages in the official record. Sandgren supplied Christopher with her complete copy, including exhibits, which he duplicated at the close of one

- of their meetings. The 2255 was extensive with the Motion of 135 pages and Exhibits of 325 pages. A complete copy of the filing is available through the Office of the United States Attorney or Diana Sandgren.
- A. Please see 2255 Ground I: Ineffective Assistance of Counsel. Examples include:
  - 1. Goldings failed to prepare for trial. Goldings did not interview *any* potential defense witnesses.
  - Goldings failed to perform at trial. Goldings called only one defense
    witness and that occurred only after Ellen Prager came to Goldings hotel
    room the morning of the day she was to testify. (2255; Exhibits;
    Affidavits pp110,111)
- B. Please see 2255 Ground II: Conflict of Interest. Examples include:
  - 1. Goldings gave Ellis an automobile in 1985.
  - 2. Goldings gave Ellis \$125,000 in 1986.
  - 3. Goldings gave Ellis approximately \$85,000.00 in Client Account checks between 1987 and 1989. (2255; pp60,61; Exhibits; Checks pp1-5)

NOTE: Goldings is currently serving a federal prison sentence for misappropriation of client account funds in the amount of \$17,000,000. Goldings' conviction involves the years between 1993 and 2000. Ellis did prove in his 2255 filed in 1997 that Goldings was guilty of misappropriation of client funds back to 1987 and before and Ellis presented canceled checks and bank statements as proof of that in his filing.

NOTE: Please see Ellis's Affidavit: N1-N4; Please see Sandgren's Affidavit: O1-O5.

- 8. Statement of Jamie Edelkind is attached both copies of his handwritten statement and the typed copy. (Please see Edelkind's Statement: Written: P1-P2; Typed: Q1-Q2)
- Please note Number 5: "He (Goldings) related a personal story about one of his clients that could have 'put him away for life'. He helped insure that this man was convicted of a heinous crime and in such a manner, so that his federal time was served in a maximum 'out west' where it would be impossible for him to serve if he turned rat. I asked him if the man was in fact guilty. He said .... 'he might not have been guilty of the offense ... but he deserved the sentence because of things that I personall(y) (sic) know'. This man he stated was both an associate as well as a client. He said that he told investigators that this man had threatened his life, so that this coupled with the 'heinous crime' he was convicted of ruined his credibility."

#### **CONCLUSION**

Ellis is innocent of the crime that holds him incarcerated. He was "too close" to Goldings and the abhorrent false allegations made against Ellis during a heated child custody battle were a perfect vehicle for Goldings to get "rid of" his "problem". Goldings threw Ellis to the wolves - purposely. Ellis's innocence of his alleged crime and the ineffective assistance of counsel of Goldings have been proven in the vehicle of the 2255 and more. Now that Goldings is no longer held in the high esteem he once was, a review of all that has come before is warranted.

A review of the case demands the immediate reversal of conviction and the immediate freeing of Rocco Edward Ellis.

Submitted this 29th day of April, 2005

Rocco Edward Ellis

Federal Register # 90033-038 Norfolk County Correctional Center 200 West Street Dedham, MA 02026



M. Goldings + REllis

Sept. 1986

SJS 44 (Rev. 11/04)

### CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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